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February 16, 2017

Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

We write today to recommend Mr. Brent Christensen for a position on the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). Mr. Christensen's 20 years of experience in the rural telecommunications industry give him a valuable perspective on how to accelerate the deployment of broadband, and he would be a strong addition to the BDAC.

As President and CEO of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA), Mr. Christensen advocates on behalf of 45 small, medium and large companies that provide advanced telecommunications services to Minnesota's metropolitan and rural communities. These member companies invest over \$152 million annually in new and upgraded capital equipment and continually work to bring high-speed internet access to previously unserved areas in Minnesota. Mr. Christensen works directly with MTA member companies expanding broadband access and knows firsthand the barriers preventing additional investments in rural broadband deployment.

In addition to his role advocating for the broadband industry in Minnesota, Mr. Christensen has experience managing the family-owned Christensen Communications Company where he provides strategic planning on broadband deployment. Mr. Christensen personally installed service for the company's first broadband subscriber and has successfully brought high-speed broadband access to residents and businesses throughout South Central Minnesota.

Mr. Christensen is dedicated to finding solutions to ensure that all Americans have access to quality broadband and we strongly recommend him for the BDAC. Thank you for your consideration of his application.

Sincerely,

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

Erik Paulsen
Member of Congress

Tom Emmer
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Tom Emmer
U.S. House of Representatives
315 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Emmer:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Mr. Brent Christensen, President and CEO of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance, to serve on the Commission's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). We will certainly consider your recommendation and Mr. Christensen's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the BDAC.

Last September, I proposed what I called a Digital Empowerment Agenda—a blueprint of policies that would accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access, or broadband, in communities across the country, including rural America. The BDAC is intended to provide an effective means for stakeholders to exchange ideas and develop recommendations to the Commission on broadband deployment. Its mission will be to identify regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment and to make recommendations on reducing and/or removing them, which will in turn enhance the Commission's ability to carry out its statutory responsibility to encourage broadband deployment to all Americans.

I appreciate your taking the time to communicate your recommendations to me. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is stylized, with the first letters of the first and last names being large and prominent.

Ajit V. Pai



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February 27, 2017

The Honorable Erik Paulsen
U.S. House of Representatives
127 Cannon House Office Building
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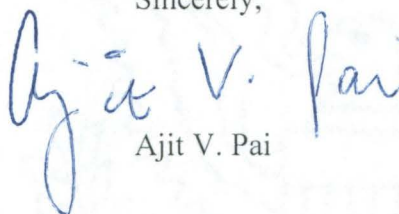
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February 27, 2017

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

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